United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit



APPELLANT'S BRIEF & APPENDIX

76-1146 B.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS For the Second Circuit

Doc. #: 75 Cr. 275

Doc. #: 76-1146

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Appellee,

v.

CHARLES FORBES,

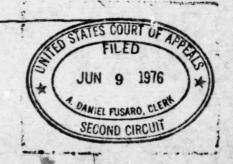
Appellant.

Appeal from the Judgment of Conviction in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Sat Below: Jacob Mischler, U.S.D.J. and a jury.

BRIEF AND APPENDIX FOR APPELLANT

CHARLES DE FAZIO III Attorney for Appellant 922 Washington St. Hoboken, N.J. 07030



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STATEMENT OF FACTS

In the case at bar the defendant CHARLES FORBES was indicted on one count said indictment being returned in late 1975 under U.S.C. 371, for conspiracy to commit interstate theft of a motor vehicle allegedly occurring on March 3, 1972.

The defendant first became aware that he was a suspect in this case in April of 1975 when he was served with a subpoena issuing out of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. (Tr. p. 307, 11.1-5) The defendant appeared with counsel and discussed the matter in the Office of E. Levin Epstein, Assistant United States Attorney, and at that time informed Mr. Levin Epstein that he had no knowledge whatsoever of the matter, but did tell the United States Attorney after being presented with certain photographs that he recognized two men whose pictures were depicted in said photographs, to wit: one Charles Peters and one Paul Fleischer. (Tr. p. 325, 11.13) Paul Fleischer it was later determined had turned government witness against certain members of a truck highjacking ring whose participation in said highjackings went back to 1968 and earlier.

Mr. Forbes testified on the witness stand that his knowledge of these men derived from his operation of a truck repair 3hop and garage at 5515 Tonnele Avenue, in the Township of North Bergen, County of Hudson and State of New Jersey. He further testified that Peters and Fleischer came to his place of business in late 1971 or thereabouts, had stopped in and had conversations with him concerning the truck repair business and the fact that they would like to give him certain repair business in the future.

There was also incidental conversation concerning the

weather and things of that nature. (Tr. pp. 326-328). Mr. Forbes vehemently maintained his innocence of any other conversation concerning using his shop as a drop for either a stolen motor vehicle or goods stolen in interstate commerce, and maintained his complete innocence from April of 1975 when he was first notified of his potential involvement to the very date of trial when he testified to that fact. (See Forbes testimony) Parenthetically Fleischer the only witness against Forbes in this case who directly tied Forbes to the conspiracy testified that he had discussed with Forbes the use of his premises as a drop in the event a suitable opportunity arose during the gang's highjacking operations.

Forbes testified before the Grand Jury completely as to whatever knowledge he had of Fleischer and Peters as aforementioned.

He also gave a written statement subsequent to trial of 1975 to the United States Attorney and also allowed himself to be photographed for whatever use the Government might have for said photographs.

It also appeared that round the time of the highjacking in question of March 1972, Forbes had in his employ one Gerald Barry, who was earning money doing part time work for Forbes in as much as he was in some financial distress at the time. Barry was also a distant relative of Forbes' wife and his duties were to drive the tow truck, to pick up disabled vehicles and do general handy work around the shop for which Forbes paid him approximately \$100.00 or so per week.

The only other involvement linking Forbes with this crime other than Forbes testimony concerning his conversations with Fleischer in North Bergen, was a telephone call which Fleischer

states was placed to Forbes place of business on March 3, 1972, at or about the time of the highjacking and theft of that particular truck known as the Arleen Knitwear truck by another member of the gang, one Addolario, requesting Forbes to send a tow truck to Manhattan, specifically on West Street, near the Federal House of Detention, where the stolen truck had broken down. There is no question that a phone call was made to Forbes place of business on that date as was introduced in evidence through the records of the New York - New Jersey Telephone Companies, from a certain phone in Manhattan and that a return call was made from Forbes place of business to the number in Manhattan.

Forbes denies that he ever received any such call to dispatch a tow truck to Manhattan on that date although he states that it is possible that one of his men received a call and dispatch Barry to the location as a large portion of Forbes business was tow truck operations, both truck and auto.

However Forbes maintains that he has no knowledge of Barry going to Manhattan on that date and was totally unaware of it until sometime in April of 1975 when the United States Attorney brought it to his attention.

Therefore it is respectfully submitted that the facts in this case other than those given by the convict and admitted thief, Paul Fleischer, is the telephone call.

In as mu h as this was an indictment the major portion of the rest of the evidence introduced by the Government had to do with Fleischer testifying as to numerous conversations which he had with other members of the gang in Brooklyn for the most part and also in Manhattan which under the law of conspiracy was admissible as against Forbes under the theory of co-conspiratorship.

No evidence was introduced and it is fairly well admitted that Forbes was never in Brooklyn at any time with any members of the gang nor was he in New Jersey with any members of this gang with the exception of Peters and Fleischer coming to his place of business as aforementioned in late 1971, and as Forbes testified for completely innocuous reasons.

Fleischer, an admitted thief and felon, presently incarcerated for three years under a sentence given by the Hon. Judge Platt, for crimes arising out of this particular incident and indictment, was the only witness produced against Forbes who in any way directly tied him to this conspiracy.

Forbes introduced testimony as to his clean background, that he was a man of approximately 56 years of age, never in any prior involvement with the law, served honorably with the United States Navy in the Second World War in various theaters, and participated in numerous operations in the Pacific, had been a garage, auto and truck mechanic for over 25 years, had an excellent reputation for honesty and truth telling, and also brought in various members of the community including a detective of the North Bergen Police Department, a life insurance salesman who was and is a close friend, and others to testify as to his good reputation in the community.

Nevertheless the jury convicted Forbes on the one count of conspiracy indictment.

STATETENT OF LAW

POINT I

The government's constant attempt to interject into the proofs evidence of the theft of a motor vehicle in May of 1972 caused irreparable prejudice to this defendant and should necessitate the setting aside of the jury verdict of guilty.

The defendant moved for a mistrial in this cause during the direct examination of the witness Loaett on the ground that the government was attempting to link Forbes to a certain highjacking which had occurred in May of 1973, which truck contained brassiers based on the simple fact that said truck was found approximately five miles from the defendant's place of business on Tonnele Avenue, North Bergen, N. J. Prior to the making of that motion the government had admitted through the witness Fleisher to also bringing in evidence of that particular highjacking in May of 1972. Upon objection by the defendant's attorney, Fleisher's testimony was forestalled even though material had been brought to the attention of the jury. The May 1973 highjacking had absolutely nothing to do with Forbes, was not in any way a count in the indictment against Forbes nor was it even a count in the indictment against Fleischer known as Indictment 72 CR 1297, which indictment against Fleischer only spoke about in incident occurring March 3, 1972. The timely motion for a mistrial was heard by the trial judge who asked the attorney for the government why this type of testimony was being introduced in the case and whether the government "has testimony to show that the container was delivered in Mr. Forbes place of business. (See Tr p. 288, lines 13 to 15).

The container alluded to by the trial judge was the truck which was highjacked in May of 1972. To the question the government attorney stated as follows: "I have no testimony, except Mr. Fleischer, your Honor, to show it was actually delivered to the Forbes place of business." (Tr. p. 288, lines 16 to 18).

The Court then said: "Did he testify it was delivered?"

This question alluded to Fleischer testifying that the container

was actually in Forbes place of business. (Tr. p. 288, line 19)

Then the government attorney stated "There is no testime that actually puts the container inside Forco's Truck Rental."

(Tr. p. 288, lines 20 to 22)

The Court then stated: "How close was it?" (Tr. p. 288, line 23)

The Government attorney responded "approximately 5 miles away. It was recovered in an empty and abandoned condition."

(Tr. p. 288, lines 24, 25)

The Court then at that plint stated as follows: "I do not understand you weren't ready to prove that the goods weren't found in Mr. Forbes possession. When I denied the government Mr. Fleischer testimony about what they told, didn't you realize that that might effect your right to prove a similar act?"

The Court further stated " and I still say it is inadmissible. But having made that ruling didn't you understand this testimony would be irrelevant?" (Tr. p. 289, lines 9 to 21)

The Court then further amplified on what the Government was attempting to do concerning the May highjacking of the truck was not the brassiers by saying "... you want me to permit you to say that a container was found five miles from Mr. Forbes place of

business to prove that he did, in fact, have possession of it?"
(Tr. 2. 290, lines 19 to 23).

And the Government persisted that it did. (Tr. p. 290, lines 24 to 25)

The above colloquy must be taken in the context of the fact that the government from its opening statement and continuing throughout the entire testimony which it adduced, attempted to bring in the fact of a May 1972 highjacking which had absolutely no relationship, no materiality, no relevance whatsoever to Forbes.

The government's opening statement was quite specific that it would show a subsequent act linking Forbes to the March 1972 Arleen Knitwear highjacking in the City of New York and persisted through the testimony of Fleischer to try to bring this before the jury up to and including the testimony of Lowett, the witness we are not discussing, at which time the aforementioned motion for a mistrial was made.

The highly prejudicial nature of this continuing attempt to bring this before the jury is particularly damaging and devastating to the defendant Forbes because the only evidence that the Government had linking him with the truck highjorking in March of 1972 was the testimony of Fleischer that a phone call had been made to Forbes to dispatch a tow truck to New York. No container was ever even alluded to being in Forbes place of business at any time and Forbes defense was that he knew nothing whatsoever of a March 3, 1972, highjacking nor had he ever participated in any conversations with Fleischer or Peters concerning the use of his place of business as a drop. The mere fact that the jury was exposed to this kind of tes mony and this kind of argument by the government concerning a subsequent highjacking, needless to say,

placed the defendant in an extraordinary adverse light made particularly bad by the fact that Forbes had no way to rebut or defend against this type of evidence.

The court refused to grant s mistrial stating on Tr. p. 291, lines 7 to 9, that the record to the May highjacking was non-prejudicial.

It is respectfully argued that this was extremely prejudicial and that this continuous pattern of attempting to introduce this type of evidence forestalled defendant from having a fair trial.

As a matter of fact when reference was originally made to this particular similar act that the May highjacking, the attorney for the defendant, immediately desired to know whether this could be tied up with the defendant and at that point it was alluded to the fact that it could be tied up.

Not only was it not tied up at any time during the course of the trial but was left hanging for the jury to do with as it wished.

POINT II

The failure of the main government witness Fleischer to inform the court and the jury that the government was to supply him with a new identify and relocation to another part of the country should be grounds for a new trial in this matter.

During the government's direct examination of Fleischer various questions were asked of him both on direct and cross concerning any arrangements he may have made with the government in

consideration for his testimony. The court also directed certain questions to Fleischer concerning this. Fleischer falled to inform the Court and the jury of the government's compromise to give him a new identity and to relocate him and his family after his release from prison.

It must be remembered that Fleischer had testified in two previous trials against other members of the conspiracy and this was his final appearance, it being the third trial in this matter. When one realizes that Fleischer first mentioned the name of Charles Forbes in 3500 material in April, 1975, it can be seen that every possible reference to the arrangement he had made with the government was of the createst importance going towards his motivation for bringing people into this conspiracy who may in fact have been innocent especially with regard to Forbes.

It is especially interesting to note that the first series of questions asked of Fleischer by the Government on this direct examination had to do with his precious convictions and arrests and had to do with the fact that certain counts with the tain indictments were to be dropped against him and certain charges which could have been preferred against him were never preferred presumably as consideration for his testimony. However, there was absolutely no questioning by the government with regard to the issue of new identity and location.

It is respectfully submitted that this was prejudicial error and caused the defendant to not have a fair trial. (See Tr. pp. 160-185).

TESTIMONY AS TO A SUBSEQUENT CRIME PREJUDICED THE DEFENDANT.

The crime charged against this defendant was violation of 18 U.S.C. 371, conspiracy. The essential elements needed to show violation of this section are an agreement to commit the offense against the United States coupled with an overt act by one or more of the conspirators. U.S. V. SUTHERLAND, C.A., Tex., 1971, 442 F.2nd 542, cert. denied 404 U.S. 833.

In the instant case the attorney for the government should not have been permitted to comment upon a hijacking which allegedly occurred in May 1972, with the container being found five miles from the defendant's place of business as aformentioned and as shown by the transcript, as it was in no way related to this defendant nor to the crime that hewas charged with, to wit, conspiracy to participate in the March 3, 1972 hijacking of the Arline Kintwear Truck in Manhatten. Nevertheless this matter was referred to throughout the trial, and in the government's opening statement to the point where a motion for a mis-trial based on exactly this problem was raised and denied by the trial judge on the ground that it was non-prejudicial, (see supra transcript reference).

What the government was in effect attempting to do with this May 1972 incident is patently clear, that is, to bring to the jury's attention a pattern related to this defendant, or in orther words admission of other crime evidence, therefore, to show the defendant in a bad light or raise the inference of bad character.

This is especially critical to the defendant when it is recalled that other than the testimony of nne Fleischer there was no evidence of the defendant's knowledge of these other conspirators mentioned at the trial. Naturally, Fleischer's testimony as to extrajudicial statements of the other conspirators as related to Forbes was admissible under the exception to the hearsay rule vis a vis a conspiracy case. U.S. V. WILKERSON, C.A. Texas, 1972, 469 F.2d 963, cert. denied 410 U.S. 986. If the jury had olmy to deal with Fleischer's testimony as to Forbes' alleged involvement in one isolated criminal transaction, knowing full will that Fleischer was an admitted felor, and that Forbes had a clean record, instead of also having this red herring of May 1972 brassiere hi-jacking in front of them, the verdict would in - 10 all likelihood been that of an acquittal.

However, the government wished to hedge its bets in this case by introducing ather criminal acts wish they hoped the jury would tie to the defendant Forbes. This could be conceivably accomplished through Fleischer since he was an admitted member of a certain hi-jacking group which had committed other writes prior to March 3, 1972. However since Forbes was in no way linked by Fleishher to any transactions pre-dating March of 1972 but only to the incident of that date through (a) Fleishher's statements, and (b) by the telephone to Forbes ' place of business on March 3, 1972 at approximately 11A.M. which someone returned to the telephone in New York where the call had originated some thirty mintes later, the government attempted and did bring to the jury's attention the May 1972 discovery of a container from a hi-jacked truck some five miles from Former' place and business.

This constant allusion to the brassiere hijacking of May 1972 could have been introduced by the government with no other puspose in mind than to prejudice this defendant, for there was absolutely no evidence in the case linking Forbes with the May discovery of the container.

It is difficult enought to defenda man in a conspiracy case in an informer is allowed by the rules to utter extrajudical statement throughout the trial, uncorroborated as they may be, but to be faced with the introduction of this type of testimony of a completely irrelevant hi-jacking makes the defense well nigh impossible.

This evidence was introduced by the government under two theories (a) proof of defendant's bad dharacter (b) proof of a fact in issue in the case. Tje issue in this case was simply whether Forbes was a member of a consipract to hi-jack the Arline Kmitwear truck on March 3, 1972. Fleischer said Forbes was a member and Forbes denied it. The introduction of other evidence of other crimes completely unsupported as in this case, would, it is submitted, materially prejudice the defendant. STATE B. BALDWIN, 47 N.J. 379 (1966), cert. denied 385 U.S. 980. It has been said that other crime evidence should be admitted only where it has a real legal relevance to the action independent from its tendency to show a particular person to be generally disposed toward wrongdoing. SeeSupra.

In conclusion when one recalls that the court, on defendant's motion for a mistrial, during the testimony of one Lowett, (Tr. p. 286) refused to allow the government to continue any further with reference to the May 1972 hi-jacking due to the government's inability to link it to the defendant; and when one recalls the governments's assetion to the trial judge early in the trial that it would be linked up and when one recalls the government's allusions to this May 1972 or me in its opening; it is submitted the motion for mis-trial should have been granted. There was no way for the government to overcome it, that is to say to remove from the minds of the jury the repeated references to this May 1972 incident and there was no way the defendant could have rebutted it. The substantial prejudice ensuring thereform was enough to deprive defendant of a fair trial.

THE GOVBERNMENT SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO ARGUE THAT THE DEFENDANT MADE AN EXCULPATORY STATEMENT LATER PROVED TO BE FALSE.

During the cross-examination of Forbes he was shown certain photographs which he had previously been shown in March 1975 at his initial conference with the government. (Tr. P. 350-355) At that time an Agent Redman showed him certain photographs of one Charly Peters and Fleischer. Forbes recoggized Peters but did not recognize Fleischer and so stated. Some four days later at an interview with the government attorney in his office, in the presence of attorney for defendant, Forbes was shown other photographs of various men. Forbes recognized Peters and also Fleischer.

Forbes throughout the course of the investigation and his cooperation with the government commencing in March 1975, maintained in his statements, his grand jury testimony and his trial testimony that Peters and Fleischer even though stopping at his shop in early 1972 for coffee and conversation, were people of no consequence and that his recollection of them was vague (Tr. p. 361). He also explaned that he, when shown Fleischer's photograph by Agent Redman on March 14, 1975 was shown a black and white photograph and he remembered Fleischer as having red hair. On March 18, 1975, after time for reflection about whese two men the government was interested in recalled Fleischer upon being presented with the photographs again and other photographs of Fleischer.

To allow the government from this to argue to the jury that Forbes made exculpatory statements later proved to false and showing a consciousness of guilty is and was hightly prejudicial, especially in light of defendant's explanation of the nature of his recollection. Defendant had not been charged with any crime in March of 1975, as a matter of fact, he was, in concert with his counsel, attempting to cooperate in every way with the government's investigation which spanned a period of time almost four years distant. U.S. V. HERNANDEZ, C.A. Kriz. 1973, 480 F.2nd 1044.

THE AT MPT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO CHARACTERIZE DETECTIVE DE CARLO'S TAKING OF A CUP OF COFFER AT THE DEFENDANT'S PLACE OF BUSINESS TO THE TAKING OF A BRIBE SHOULD BE GROUNDS FOR A REVERSAL OF THE VERDICT OF GUILTY, SINCE IT WAS HEARD BY THE JURY AND HAD TO PREJUDICE THE DEFENDANT.

Detective Vincent De Carlo of the North Bergen Police
Department was called to the witness distand as a character witness for the defendant. (Tr. P. 379, et. seq.). He was also
called as a factual witness to describe the defendant's place
of business and with regard to defendant's garage being a New
Jersey Motor Vehicle impounding year. (Tr. p. 379, et. seq.).

During the cross examination by the government the following question was asked (Tr. P. 387, 1. 2) "Did you ever hear the phrase, "on the arm"? A. "Yes, sir" Q. You know what it means; don't you?" A. "Yes, sir. "Q. What does it mean?"

A. "Something for nothing, sir " This was in reference to Mr.

De Carlo having coffee as burbes place of business.

The Court said (Tr. p. 387 11. 13-14) "Strike it out. Disregard that. Highly improper." And then the court said to the government attorney (Tr. p. 389-390, 11., 24-25; 11. 1-10) "I might say that I am appalled at the conduct of your examination. You are acting like a defendant, counsel. Now, because a police officer comes to the stand does not mean that you have the right to be abusive. That is number one. I can't say that to defendant's counsel, but I am saying that to you. You are trying to say that because this police officer took a cup of coffee that it was so-called "on the arm"; is that what you are saying?".

The colloquy of the doffee analogized to a bribe continued to the point where in the presence of the jury the government attorney made a formal apologh (Tr. p. 392 - 394.

However, the damage was done, and the seed implanted in the jury's mind that this police officer was a bribe ker. This defendant once again could not have a fair trial. FLEISCHER'S EVIDENCE AGAINST FORBES SHOULD HAVE BEEN SUPPRESSED OR AT THE VERY LEAST A CAUTIONARY AND ADMINITORY INSTRUCTION SHOULD HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE JURY WITH REGARD TO AN ACCOMPLICE'S TESTIMONY AND THE WEIGHT TO BE GIVEN IT WITHOUT AND OTHER SUBSTANTIAL PROOF OF DEFENDNAT'S GUILT.

Independent evidence of membership in conspiracy is needed to ground decision to admit hearsay declaration by coconspirators. U.S. V. MARQUEZ, C.A.N.Y., 1970, 424 F.2d 236, cert. denied 400 U.S. 828. In this case there was absolutely no independent evidence of defendant's participation in the March 3, 1972 hi*jacking of the Arline Knitwwear Truck. Fleiximer was the only witness ggainst Forbes and through his testimoney all types of hearsay was allowed against Forbes including many conversations allegedly had by Fleischer with other members of the conspiracy relating to Forbes.

Fleischer's testimony is even more suspect when one realizes the following (a) Forbes was never in New York or Brooklyn (b) nothing was ever brought to Forbes's place of business in North Bergen (c) No other member of the conspiracy testified against Forbes (d) the man who took the two truck to New York, Gerald Barry, was not called to rebut Forbes' statement that he did not have any knowledge of Barry going to New York with the truck on March 3, 1972 pursuant to a two truck job (e) Forbes completely clean record (f) Forbes high and good reputation in the community (g) Forbes' association with various police departments and having been designated an official impounding yard for the divison of motor vehicles of New Jesseyand (g) Fleischer's deals with the government to save his skin including the new identity which he fæled to testify about.

Declarations made by a member of a conspiracy cannot be used against other members unless there is other substantial evidence of the existence of the conspiracy; the order of proof is inimportant; the important considersation is establishing existence of the conspiracy by other substantial evidence. KLEIN V. U.S., C.A. Ariz. 1973, 472 F.2d 847.

CONCLUSION

It is based on the aforementioned legal arguments that the defendant requests that the guilty verdict be reversed and either (a) a verdict of not guilty be entered or (b) that the matter be remanded to the Eastern District of New York for a new trial. It is patently and overtly apparent that the errors, either looked at singularly or collectively, were of substantial prejudice and manifestly interfere with this defendant's right to a fair and equitable trial. The tactics and stategy used by the government to obtain a conviction in this case, it is respectfully submitted, went far bey nd the bounds of proper evidentiary material and said tactics were even called to the U.S. Attorney's attention throughout the trial.

It is also and finally submitted that the mistrial should have been granted when requested during the testimony of one Lowett when the subject of the May 1972 was once again gone into by the Government.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES DE FAZZO I

brm No. 100

75 CR 275

CRIMINAL DOCKET TITLE OF CASE or U. S.: Levin-Epstein THE UNITED STATES CHARLES PETERS. GERARD COLLINS a/k/a "Rebel" PAUL FLAMMIO. ROCCO MASTRANGELO a/k/a "Rocky" JOSEPH ADDOLORIA, a/k/a "Joe Baldy" Collins For Defendant: Court apptd counsel CHARLES FORBES and John Corbett GERALD BARRY 66 Court St., Bklyn Theft of goods in i.c.c. CASH RECLIVED AND DISBURSED ABSTRACT OF COSTS AMOUNT RECEIVED 01.3 11-21-15 Hoters Appeal & Rocco Fine. 5 Clerk. Patros of Syper Town Marshal. 5 Attorney, 3-16-76 Hot... of Appening frehe Commissioner's Court, 5 Witnesses, 4-8-75 Before Weinstein J - Indictment filed - Bench Warrants ordered for defts, MASTRANGELO, MIGGEORIA & JOSEPH ADDOLORIA, Bonch Harrent issued. 4-14-75 Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus Ad Prosequendum filed(PETERS COLLINS & PAUL FLAMMIO) 4-14-75 By Platt, J - Writs issued as above (ret. 4-25-75) 4-21-75 Before PLATT, J - case called - deft MASTRANGELO & counsel L. Eisenberg present - deft arraigned and after being advised of his rights enters a plea of not guilty - bail set at \$10,000-P.R.B. Bail limits extended to include, Manhattan and the Bronk adjd to 4-25-75 for status report - any outstanding Bench Warrant is ro be considered vacated.

By CATOGGIO, MAG. - Copy of Order for acceptance of cash bail filed

75CK 275

DATE	FROCLEDINGS
4125175	Before PLATT, J Case called - Defts and counsel present - Each deft arraiged the Court and enters pleas of not guilty for defts **XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
	set at \$50,000.00 surety bond for defts Peters, Clins, and Flaming- Bail a
	at \$25,000.00 P.R.Bond for deft Addolaria- Bail set at \$5000 P.R. Lond
	for deft Forbes and Barry, and Mastrangelo- Case adjd to 5/23/75 for status
,	report
4-29-75	Writs retd and filed - executed as to defts COLLINS, PETERS & FLAMMIO.
5-6-75	By PLATT, J - Order filed appointing counsel for deft COLLINS.
5-12-7	5 Notice of Motion filed, ret. May 23, 1975, for Permission to
	obtain Grand Jury testimoney, Inspection etc. (deft Charles Forbes)
5/15/75	Petitions for writs of habeas corpus ad prosequendum filed (COLLINS, FLAMATO
5/11/75	By PLATT, J Writs issued, ret. 5/22/75
523/75	Writ retd and filed. Executed. (G. COLLENS and P. FLAMMIO)
5/23/75	Before PLATT, J Case called- Defts and counsel present-Defts Peters and
	Flammia's motion to reduce bail- motion denied- case adjd to 5/30/75 to
	set trial date-deft Forbes's motion for discovery- motion denied on default
5/27/75	Notice of motion for discovery and inspection filed ret. 5/30/75 (BARLY)
1/28-75	Govts Notice of Readiness for Trial filed (all defts)
5/129/75	Notice of motion for inspection and bill of particulars filed ret. 5/30/75 (ADDOLORIA)
5 12-75	Notice of Motion filed for Bill of Particulars etc. (ret. May 30, 1975
	(CHARLES PETERS)
51:0/75	Before PLATT, J Case called - Defts' motion for discovery etc. granted and
	denied as indicated on the record-Deft Barry's motion for severance- deci- sion reserved trial set down for 6/23/75 at 10:00 A.M.
6177175	Affidavits (2) of A.U.S.A. Levin-Epstein filed (BARRY and PETERS)
G/18/75	
6'18/75	Ey PLATT, J Writs issued ret. 6/23/75
4/23-75	By PLATT, J - Memorandum and Order filed denying motion of deft PETERS
	(Eill of Particulars) and granting motion as indicated.in
6-23-75	By PLATT, J - Memorandum and Order filed (deft GERALD BARRY) denying
	motion for Discovery; motion for severance is also denied.
6-23-75	Before PLATT, J - case called - deft COLLINS & counsel John Corbett
	present - Govt motion to take exemplars - motion granted -adjd to
	June 24, 1975 - Certificate of Engagement issued to each counsel .
	75 M 682 inserted in CR file.
- J.J. I.S.	

DATE	PROCEEDINGS
6/24/75	Writs retd and filed- executed (PETERS, COLLINS and FIAMMIA)
6/24/75	Before PIATT, J Case called - Deft and counsel present - Court direct deft Collins to tive handwriting exemplars - adjd to 9/22/75 for tri
	Notice of Motion filed, ret. 9-5-75, for permitting counsel to withdraw (deft Barry)
8-28-7	Proof of Service filed for above motion (original and 2 copies)
	Petitions for write of habeas corpus ad prodequendum filed (FLAMMIA, COLLINS and PETERS)
9/2/75	By PIATT J Writs issued, ret. 9/22/75
9/2/75 1	By PLATT, J Writs issued, ret. 9/22/15 By PLATT, J Order filed that Dr. A. Kaltman is appointed to exami
7720713	defts Forbes and Barry, etc. Certified copies sent to the Marchell
CZKKBIKE	XXEXX
9-22-75	Stenographers transcript dated June 23, 1975 filed (Colling)
	5 Before PLATT, J - case called - defts & counsels present -
	defts FORBES & BARRY motion to sever - motion granted - deft
	Flammias motion to sever - motion denied - Covt motion to compel
	deft Collins to provide handwriting exemplars - motion granted -
	Govt motion to compel deft Peters to provide handwriting exemplars
	motion granted on consent - adid to 9-23-75 for trial.
9/23/75	
9/23/75	Certified copy of orderdated 9/18/75 retd and filed- executed
9-23-75	Before PLATT, J - case called - defts & attys present - counsel
	E. Mastropieri fined the sun of \$100 for contempt - enscution or
	fine is stayed until completion of trial - defts FLAMMIA, CONTRIB &
	CHARLES PETERS after being advised of their rights and each on
	his own behalf withdraws plea of not guilty and enter pleas of
	guilty to count 3 - sentences adjd without date - defts COLUMN
	FIAMMIA continued in custody. Trial ordered and Pagun - Jura
	selected and suorn - trial contd to 9-24-75, as to defend to defen
9-24-	75 Before PLATT, J - case called - trial resumed - trial contribute o 9-26-75.
9-25-7	5 Before PLATT, J - case called - trial resumed - trial
	contd to 9-29-75.
0/30/25	Before PLATT, J Case called Defts and counsel preser - Triel reserve
	Trial contd to 9/30/75
9/30/7	Before PIATT, J Case called- Defts and counsel present- Trial re
2/30//	Trial contd to 10/1/75
Q. C. 109	

tivite	PHOCECDINGS
10-1-75	Before PLATT, J - case called - trial resumed - Trial contd to
	Oct. 2, 1975.
012/75 1	Before PLATT, J Case called - Defts and counsel present-Trial resumed
	Defts motion for mistrial denied- Trial contd to 10/6/75
10-6-75	before PLATE, J - case called - trial resumed - defts motion to
-	dismiss - decision reserved as to count (3) defiled as to the rest -
11	trial contd to Oct. 7, 1975
10/7/75	Stenographer's transcript of 6/24/75 filed
13-7-75	8 Volumes of stenographers transcripts filed.
12-7-75	Before PLATT, J - case called -max Trial resumed - Jury returns with
	a verdict of guilty on counts 1, 2 & 3 as to each deft - MASTRANGELO
	and ADDOLARIA - Jury polled and Jury discharged - bail contd - bail
	contd - sentences adjd without date.
10-7-75 E	By E Platt, J - Order of sustenance filed for Lunch-14 persons
The commence and com-	Stenographers transcript of Oct. 7, 1975 filed. (pgs 1311 to 1383)
1/13/75	Petitions for writs of habeas corpus ad prosequendum filed- writs'
1	issued (FIAMMIA, COLLINS and PETERS)
	present - deft sentence to imprisonment on count 1 for a period of / years out count 2 for a period of 5 years - to run concurrently with count one Deft to serve 7 years imprisonment on count 3 - execution of sentence is
	suspended and the deft is placed on 5 years probation - count 3 to run
	consecutively with counts 1 and 2 - bail set at \$25,000 pending appeal.
	Deft FLAMMIA & counsel G. Sheinberg present deft is sentenced on
	count 3 to 6 years imprisonment under 18:4208(a0(2) - sentence to run consecutively to State sentence; dOn motion of AUSA Levin-Epstein
	counts 1 and 2 are dismissed. Deft Peters & counsel T.O'Brien present -
	deft sentenced to imprisonment for 8 years pursuant to 18:4208(a)(2)
	sentence to run consecutively to any State sentence. On motion of AUSA
	Lein-Epstein counts 1 and 2 are dismissed. Deft COLLINS & counsel John
	Corbett present - Deft is sentenced on count 3 to imprisonment for
	a term of 8 years pursuant to 18:4208(a)(2) -sentence to run consecutively
	with State sentence. On motion of AUSA Levin - Epstein counts 1 and 2 are
	dismissed.
	Judgment & Commitments filed for defts. COLLINS, PETERS, FLAMIN,
M	M.STRANCELO & ADDOLORIA - certified copies to Line Marshal & Probation.
-	Voucher for compensation of counsel filed (deft Peters)
-	Writs retd and filed - executed (PETERS, FLAMMIA & COLLINS)

*

D/.T:

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PROCEFDINGS

	11-21-7	5 Before PLATT, J - case called - deft ADDOLORIA & atty Harold
)		Goerlich present - Deft is sentenced for 9 years pursuant to
		18:4208(a) 2) on count 1; for a term of imprisonment of 5 yrs
٠		on count 2 to run concurrently with the sentence in count 1
		pursuant to 18:4208(a)(2); for a term of imprisonment on count 3
		for a period of 9 years. E-ecution of sentence is suspended and
		deft is placed on probation for 5 years; count 3 to run consecutive
		with the sentences in counts 1 and 2 - bail set at \$25,000 secured
~		bond pending appeal.
	11-21-7	5 Judgment & Commitment filed - certified copies to Marshal (ADDOLORIA)
	11-21-7	5 Notice of Appeal filed (MASTRANCELO)
	11-21-7	
		Appeals (MASTRANGELO)
	11-25-7	5 Voucher for compensation of counsel filed (COLLINS)
	12-2-75	Record on Appeal certified and mailed to the Court of Appeals.
		(MASTRANGELO)
	12-1-75	By PLATT, J - Order filed releasing bail (ADDOLORIA)
	12-3-75	Notice of Appeal filed (ADDOLORIA)
4	12-3-75	Docket entries and duplicate of Notice of Appeal mailed to
		the Court of Appeals, (Addoloria)
12/	5/75	Acknowledgment mailed received frm court of appeals for receipt of (Mastrangelo)
	12-8-75	
	22.0.73	to the Court of Appeals (ADDOLORIA)
3	_12-10	on Appeal be docketed on or before Dec. 15, 1975.
	12-18-7	75 Acknowledgment received from the Court of Appeals for
		receipt of supplemental index to record on appeal(Addoloria)
	12/30/75	Voucher for Componer is a filed (for deft P. Flennie)
	1/2/76	Stenographer's transcript of 11/21/75 [led (R. Mastrangelo)
	1/2/76	Stenographer's Transcript of 11/21/75 filed (J. Addoloria)
)	1/2/76	Supplemental Index to Record on Appeal certified and mailed to the Court of Appeals (ADBOLORIA & MASTMANCELO)
	1/5/76	
		signed requiring deft Forbes to take a medical expination- code
		to 1/23/76 at 10:00 A.M. for status report

DATE	PI-OK REDINGS
1-6-76	By PLATT, J - Order filed that the deft (Charles Forbes) present himself
-	or examination on 1-9-76 at the offices of Dr. Myron Texon , 3 E. 68th St.
	New York, N.Y. and that Dr. Texon be permitted to examine any and all
	charts and/or medical records or documents , including but not limited to
	any records prepared or maintained by Dr. Henry Twerdow, North Bergen, N.J.
	and that upon completion of his examination to report to this court in
	writing , his talked opinion as to the defts ability to stand trial, etc.
	It is further ordered that copies of Dr. Texon's report be forwarded to
	Asst U.S. Atty Levin-Epstein and Charles DeFazio, III, Esq. 922 Washington
	Street, Hoboken, N.J.
1-8-76	Stenographers transcript filed dated Nov. 21, 1975
	Motion for modification and/or reduction of sentence imposed as to
	deft Collins.
1-16-	6 Acknowledgment received from the Court of Appeals for receipt
	of supplemental index to record on appeal and filed (ADDOLORIO &
	MACTRANGELO)
1-22-76	By PLATT, J Memorandum and Order dtd 1-21-76 denying pltff's motion
	for reduction of sentence filed (copy mailed to deft as directed).
//23/76	SUPERSEDING INFORMATION AND WAIVER OF INDICTMENT FILED (CERLAD BERRY)
1 /23/76	Before PLATT, J Case called- deft and counsel - deft BARRY arraigned
	and after being being advised of his rights by the court and on his
	own behalf withdrans his plea of not guilty and enters a plea of guilty
	to the superseding information- bail contd- sentence adjd without date-
1/29/76	Before MISHLER, CH.J. = Case called- deft FORBES and counsel Charles De Fazio
	present- Trial ordered and begun-jurors selected and sworn-trial contd to
aci.	1/30/76 at 10:00 A.M.
1-30-76	Before MISHLER, CH j - case called - deft FORBES & counsel Charles
(De Fazio present - trial resumed - Govt rests - motion by deft for a
	Mistrial is denied - motion by the deft for Judgment of acquittal is
	denied - Trial contd to 2-2-76.
2-2-76	Before MISHLER, CH. J Case called. Deft Charles Forbes and counsel
-	Charles DeFazio present. Nine jurors present, five jurors not present
	due to the snow storm. Trin1 continued to 2-3-76 at 10 A.M.
23-76	
0	trial resumed - at 12:30 PM the Jury retired for deliberation - at 3:00 PM
	the Jury returned and rendered a verdict of guilty on count 2 as to deft
	Forbes - Jury polled - Jury discharged - trial concluded - motion by dift
	to set aside the verdict is denied - bail conditions contd \$5,000 PB-
Territoria.	The same of the sa

GAS.	PARCHEDINGS.
	ail limits extended to the State of New Jersey - sentence adjd
2-3-75	By Mishler, Ch J - Order of sustenance filed.
2/9/76	Notice of motion to reduce sentence filed (PETERS)
2/25/76	Notice of motion to reduce sentence filed (FIAMMIA)
2/26/76	By PLATT, J Memorandum and Order filed denying motion for reduction of sentence (PETERS)
3-3-76	Mandate received from the Court of Appeals affirming the
	Judgment of this court (JN)
3/4/76	Records retd from court of appeals- acknowledgment mailed for rece
3/18/76	Notices of motions to file late appeals filed (Peters and Collins)
3-10	Before MISHLER, CH J -case called - deft Barry & counsel Richard Weiner present - Imposition of sentence is suspended
	and the deft is placed on probation for 2 years, sentenced on 75 CR-275 (S). On motion of AUSA Levin Epstein the indictment
i	id dismissed. Deft FORBES & counsel Charles De Fazio III
	present - deft is sentenced to a term of imprisonment on count 2
	for 3 years and a fine of \$2,500. Execution of sentence is suspe-
	ended and the deft is placed on probation for 2 years. Clerk to
	file Notice of Appeal on behalf of deft Forbes - bail conditions
	contd pending appeal. Payment of fine stayed pending appeal'
3-19-76	Judgment and Order of probation foled for defts FORBES & BARRY.
3-19-70	Certified copies to Probation.
3-19-76	
3-19-76	
	the Court of Appeals.
3-22-76	By PLATT, J - Memorandum and Order filed denying motion of
	deft Paul Flammia for reduction of sentence -Copy forwarded to the deft.
3-24-76	Stenographers transcript filed dated Sept. 23, 1975 (Flammia)
3/25/76	Letter from deft Flammia reflecting change of address filed
3-25-76	Voucher for compensation of expert services filed (Flammia)
4-2-76	Stenographers transcript filed dated 9-23-75
4-2-76 4-2-76	Stenographers transcript filed dated Nov. 21,1975 (Colling) Stenographers transcript filed dated Nov. 21 1975 (Flammic)

DATE 4-15-76 Order received from the C of A that the record on appeal be docketed April 30, 1976 on or before 4.28-76 Judgment & Commitments retd and filed as to defts Addoloria and Mastrangelo - defts. delivered to Warden, MCC. NY 5 /13/76 Stenographers Transcripts dated 1/29/76, 1/30/76, 2/3/76(2) and 3/19/76 file 55-26-76 Stenographers transcript filed dated 9-23-75

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

11' 5	Docket No	umber
	J	acob Mischler, J.B.C.
		(District Court Judge)
CHARLES FORBES,		
Dofe Dofe	sudout	
	NOTICE OF APPEAL	
Notice is hereby given that	CHARLES FORBES	appeals to
e United States Court of Appeals for	the Second Circuit from the	. Judament order other
pecify) Jury verdict of Gu		February 5, 1976
pecify)	entered in this action on _	(Date)
		Charles De Fazio III
		(Counsel for Appellant)
March 12, 1976	Address	
ateo:		922 Washington St. Roboken, N.J. 07030
Office of the Clerk		
*** - * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *		
U.S. 2nd Circ. Court Federal Blog., Brookly	ya, N.Y. 1.1201	659-5760
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Federal Bldg., Brookl;	ya, N.Y. 1.1201 Phone Number 201-	CRIPT INFORMATION - FORM B DESCRIPTION OF PROCEET FOR WHICH TRANSCRIPT IS
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COPY FOR DEFENDANT

RJD:EL-E:1j1 F. #751,403

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- against -

CHARLES PETERS,
GERARD COLLINS, a/k/a "Rebel",
PAUL FLAMMIO,
ROCCO MASTRANGELO, a/k/a "Rocky",
JOSEPH ADDOLORIA, a/k/a "Joe Baldy",
CHARLES FORBES and
GERALD BARRY,

Defendants.

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:

and 2)

COUNT ONE

On or about the 3rd day of March 1972, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendants CHARLES PETERS, GERARD COLLINS, also known as "Rebel", PAUL FLAMMIO, ROCCO MASTRANGELO, also known as "Rocky" and JOSEPH ADDOLORIA, also known as "Joe Baldy", with intent to convert to their own use, did wilfully and knowingly embezzle, steal and unlawfully take from a motortruck belonging to the Arline Knitwear Company, Brooklyn, New York, a quantity of women's knitted garments, having a value in excess of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), which goods were moving as and constituting an interstate shipment of freight from New York to New Jersey. (Title 18, United States Code, Section 659

gent. J

(T. 18, U.S.C., \$659, \$371, \$924(c)(1), (2) and \$2)

1-8.76

COUNT TWO

on or about and between the 1st day of January 1972 and the 7th day of March 1972, both dates being approximate and inclusive, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendants CHARLES PETERS, GERARD COLLINS, also known as "Rebel",

PAUL FLAMMIO, ROCCO MASTRANGELO, also known as "Rocky", JOSEPH ADDOLOPIA, also known as "Joe Baldy", CHARLES FORBES and GERARD BARRY, along with Paul Fleischer, named herein as a co-conspirator but not as a co-defendant, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did knowingly and wilfully conspire to commit offenses against the United States, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 659, by conspiring to unlawfully take from a motortruck belonging to the Arline Knitwear Company, Brooklyn, New York, a quantity of women knitted garments, having a value in excess of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), which goods were moving as and constituting an interstate shipment of freight from New York to New Jersey, and further, to unlawfully receive and have in their possession the said garments, the aforesaid defendants knowing the same to have been stolen.

In furtherance of the said unlawful conspiracy and for the purpose of effecting the objectives thereof, within the Eastern District of New York and elsewhere, the defendants CHARLES PETERS, CERARD COLLINS, also known as "Rebel", PAUL FLAMMIO, ROCCO MASTRANGELO, also known as "Rocky", JOSEPH ADDOLORIA, also known as "Joe Baldy", CHARLES FOREES and GERALD BARRY committed among others the following:

OVERT ACTS

- 1. In or about January 1972, within the Eastern
 District of New York, the defendants CHARLES PETERS, GERARD
 COLLINS, also known as "Rebel", PAUL FLAMMIO, ROCCO MASTRANGELO,
 also known as "Rocky" and JOSEPH ADDOLORIA, also known as "Joe
 Baldy", along with co-conspirator Paul Fleischer met in Queens,
 New York.
- 2. On or about March 3, 1972, the defendant CHARLES FORBES had a telephone conversation with the defendant ROCCO MASTRANGELO, also known as "Rocky", in New York, New York.

3. On or about March 3, 1972, the defendant GERALD BARRY drove a tow truck from New Jersey to New York, New York. (Title 18, United States Code, Section 371).

COUNT THREE

On or about the 3rd day of March 1972, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendants CHARLES PETERS, GERARD COLLINS, also known as "Rebel", PAUL FLAMMIO, ROCCO MASTRANGELO, also known as "Rocky" and JOSEPH ADDOLORIA, also known as "Joe Baldy", knowingly, intentionally, wilfully and unlawfully carried and used a firearm, during their commission of an offense for which they may be, and are being, prosecuted in a Court of the United States, to wit: the theft of a quantity of women's knitted garments, having a value in excess of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), which goods were moving as and constituting an interstate shipment of freight, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 659, which offense is set forth in Count One above. (Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1), (2) and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2)

A TRUE BILL.

FOREMAN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

LASTEIN Distriot of NEW YORK

Division ...

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

.

CLARLES PETERS, et. al.,

Defendants.

INDICTMENT

(fr. 18, U.S.C., 5659, \$371, 5924(c)(1), (2) and \$2)

A true bill,

Peremen.

Filed in open court this d.

Ball, 8

E. LEVIL-EPSTEIN, AUEN

596-3687

4 5

MR. LEVIN-EPSTEIN: There has been one trial of this actual indictment, in which the defendants Mastrangelo and Adelorio had been convicted. 75 CR 280, in which Mr. Braverman and Mr. Santoro were convicted. This is the third trial in the series of three indictments. The reason that Mr. Forbes is present, is because he was severed earlier at counsel's motion, because of a physical infirmity. I don't know which District Court file you have there, Your Honor, but if you are missing it, I will be happy to give it to you. I think I supplied that to you on the first day, Your Honor.

THE COURT: I think I am ready, if they are ready. See if the jury is ready.

(Whereupon the jury entered the courtroom)

THE COURT: Mr. Foreman, ladies and gentlemen of the jury, a jury trial really consists of three major areas of participation. We have the lawyers, whose duty it is to develop the evidence. The jury trial is called an adversary proceeding. The parties are adversaries and they are adversaries on a particular issue or issues of fact. In this particular case, the issue that will most certainly engage your attention, and is vital to the case is whether or not the accused,

7 8

Charles Forbes, sat down with Peters and Fleischer prior to March 3rd, 1972, and spoke about using Forbel' place of business as a drop for hi-jacked merchandise that was moving in interstate commerce, and subsidiary issue as to whether Forbes' tow truck came over to New York on March the 3rd to tow the truck from Airfreight Haulage, approximately seven or eight blocks to a location near West Street, and whether Forbes knew his tow truck was being used in that fashion.

means employed to hi-jack the Arlene Trucking or Arlene Manufacturing truck with the goods on March 3rd; all incidentally necessary to prove the government's case, and if not necessary, certain material to prove the government's case. The point to make here in outlining the various duties that each participant in the trial has, is to understand that it is the lawyers obligation to develop the evidence, and the lawyers, of course, are partisan, they are protagonists, they represent clients, and you expect that their role is far different than that of the judge and the jury. The judge and the jury are objective, dispassionate, we must both look at the case as judges, but each from a different point of view. You look at the facts. You look at it

objectively and dispassionately, and from all the evidence in the case you determine what happened. You determine the sharp issue of fact as to whether when Peters and Fleischer visited Mr. Forbes at his place of business at Tonnele Avenue or whatever the avenue is in New Jersey where they just casually walked in and had a cup of coffee and spoke about nothing in particular or whether they sat down and talked about the possibility of using the place as a drop or they talked price, and what Mr. Forbes would get out of it.

The Court on the other hand is the sole judge of the law, just as you solely decide the facts. The Court decides the law of the case. So, during the trial, I was obliged to make rulings on objections, and during the summations I was obliged to make rulings on objection to the summations made by both sides, and now I charge you on the law.

Now, I am obliged to accept your findings of facts, because you are the judges of the facts. You, on the other hand, are obliged to accept my charge on the law, because I am the sole authority on the law. It would be a violation of your duty to just disregard the law as I charge it, and decide to go on your merry way and apply any law you thought seemed logical to you,

just as I would be violating my duty if I, in any way, interfered with your fact finding. I have no right to do it, and I say to you right now, I have no idea one way or the other, no opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the defendant. That is solely with you.

sumption of innocence. ery defendant in every criminal trial is presumed to be innocent. That means that at the very outset of the trial you must conclude that the defendant is innocent of the charge in the indictment, and that conclusion persists throughout the trial and throughout your deliberations, and is sufficient to acquit a defendant unless the revernment overcomes that presumption by proof of the defendant's guilt of the charge beyond a reasonable doubt. So that if the government fails in its burden, you have the obligation of finding the defendant not guilty. You can't speculate whether he is or not. You look at the evidence. If the evidence doesn't convince you, then you have the obligation of finding him not guilty.

I would like to use the manner of verdict in

Scotland. It is called the Scotch Verdict. You probably heard the term. In Scotland there are three verdicts.

It is guilty, not guilty or not proven. In this country,

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of course, we have only two. It is either guilty or not guilty, and not guilty includes not proven.

Now, what is a reasonable doubt? A reasonable doubt is a kind of doubt that a reasonable person would have after viewing all the evidence. It is a doubt based on reason and common sense, and the evidence in the case, the state of the record. It is not something vague, speculative or imaginary doubt. It is not the kind of doubt that you might have if after finding the government proved the guilt of the defendant beyond a reasonable doubt, you were disinclined to convict because you don't like to perform an unpleasant task. A reasonable doubt is the kind of doubt that a reasonable person would have, and hesitate to act in a matter of performance to himself or herself. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is therefore proof of such convincing character that you would be willing to rely and act upon unhesitatingly in the most important of your own affairs. The government does not have the burden of proving the guilt of the defendant beyond all possible doubt. The government does not have the burden of proving that every bit of evidence that was submitted is true beyond a reasonable doubt. The government does not have the burden of proving beyond a reasonable doubt

all the essential elements of the crime charged in this indictment, and I will list the essential elements of the crime charged, and the government will have to prove all of those elements beyond a reasonable doubt.

The defendant has no obligation of offering any proof. In this case the defendant took the stand, testified, brought in witnesses. But the defendant has the right to rely on the failure of the government to prove his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. The defendant offered three witnesses, Detective Vincent DeCarlo, Joseph Lutagraff, and Gerald Schwartz, and they gave testimony as to the defendant's reputation for his integrity, truthfulness and industry in the community, and expressed their own opinions as to those traits of character.

Now, evidence of the defendant's reputation and the personal opinion expressed by the witness inconsistent with those traits of character ordinarily associated with the crime charged may give rise to reasonable doubt, since the jury may think it improbable that a person of such good character and respect to those traits would commit such a crime.

Now, evidence of good character should be charged with all the other evidence in the case in determining

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whether the government has proved its case beyond a reasonable doubt. Of course, if after considering all the evidence, including the character evidence that the government has proved its case beyond a reasonable doubt, then you should not refuse to convict merely because the defendant is shown to be a man of good character.

Evidence is the method that the law uses to prove or disprove a disputed fact. Evidence is generally classified as either direct evidence or indirect, sometimes called circumstantial evidence. Direct evidence is the testimony of witnesses of what those witnesses saw or heard. Circumstantial evid ace is a method of proving or disproving a disputed fact by a jury drawing lone inferences based upon their good common sense and experience. I have come to use routinely and example of what I mean. My courtroom deputy and myself were on the corner of A and 1st Street, let's say just to use a hypothetical, and a stop sign is on the street. Let's assume he had his back on the roadway and stop sign, and I was facing the roadway and stop sign. Let's assume I saw this 1976 Cadillac come down th. roadway, pass the stop sign and strike someone. Let's say it was a woman so we can identify the plaintiff and the defendant. In the hypothetical, let's assume that A,

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Mrs. A, sued Mr. B claiming that B was driving his car on the particular day and failed to stop at the stop sign, and proceeded beyond it and struck her and knocked her down. Now, first sitting here as a jury in that personal injury case, we would have the contested issue the plaintiff said the defendant passed the stop sign without stopping. The defendant said, "yes, I stopped and then proceeded." First called to the stand, since the stop sign was in view, I would give direct testimony of that issue. You see, you must first identify the issue. I would, in effect, say, I was talking with Mr. Adler, and as I was speaking with him, stop sign in view, the defendant's motor vehicle came within my peripheral vision. I noticed it was approximately 65 miles an hour, passed the stop sign and struck Mrs. A. That is direct testimony of that contested issue. On the other hand, Mr. Adler is not incompetent to testify because he did not see that the motor vehicle passed. the stop sign. He could testify to the circumstances surrounding that issue. He might testify he was speaking with me, he turned to his left or his right, rather, saw the motor vehicle coming down the highway traveling about 65 miles an hour, he lost sight of it as it passed behind him about two or three seconds of travel, about

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150 feet, he turned to the left and he saw the motor vehicle again traveling about the same rate of speed, and saw it knock down Mrs. A. Now, there the circumstances, the car traveling about 65 miles an hour, traversing about 100 or 150 feet, your good common sense and experience will tell you that he could not have stopped and then proceeded in that time. So from all these circumstances, I think it is fair to say that you come to the same conclusion on that fact as you would have by the direct testimony. The law doesn't hold that direct testimony is a better quality than circumstantial evidence. Sometimes circumstantial evidence is of better quality. Sometimes direct evidence is of better quality. The law requires only that the government prove the guilt of the defendant on both the direct and circumstantial evidence by proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

What is the evidence in this case? One, it is the sworn testimony of the witnesses regardless of who called them. All their testimony, the direct, cross, the exhibits that are actually marked in evidence, the facts that the Court judicially noticed; for example, I think I judicially noticed that the 3rd day of March, 1972 was a Friday. I am not sure I judicially noticed

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it, but if I didn't I better judicially notice it correctly. It is just facts that are established beyond question, recorded, that I can judicially notice. I have a calendar, and I was correct, March 3rd, 1972, was a Friday. And upon all that, and the inferences that may fairly be drawn, you will arrive at your determination as to what happened. And then, in accordance with the law as I charge it, you will determine the guilt or innocence of this defendant. I think it is important for you to understand what is not evidence in the case. The statements that counsel make in opening and in summation. They are designed as aids in your search for the truth. The opening statements are designed to alert you as to what the parties claim what there positions are, so that you may more easily follow the testimony that is to come, and in summation, the argument made by counsel, the defendant arguing that the government has failed to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt; arguments for exculpability, and the government argument of inculpability. The government's argument that the government proved the guilt of the defendant beyond a reasonable doubt. Begin to focus on the important testimony given or what the lawyers regard as important, and arguments made, I am asking you to draw the infer-

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ences from it. You couldn't possibly accept all the arguments of both counsel, but they are offered to you because some may sound attractive to you. Those that aren't, you just reject. Those that are considered, that would lead you to a just result, you keep. Evidence stricken from the record may not be considered by you. As I directed the court reporter to physically strike it from his record, so you are to strike it from your consideration, from your recollection. At times objection was made to questions where the Court sustained the objection. You may not speculate on what the answer might have been if the witness were allowed to answer on the same theory that it is not in the record. If it is not in the record, you may not consider it.

I have used the term inference and presumption, and I think I should define them. An inference is a conclusion which reason and common sense leads the jury to draw the facts which have been established by the evidence, and the example of that, of course, is the inference that a jury draws in determining a disputed fact through circumstantial evidence. An inference is a discretionary matter with the jury, based on common sense. A presumption, on the other hand, is the inclusion which the law requires the jury to make and

by the evidence in the case to the contrary. But, unless and until the presumption is so outweighed, the
jury is bound to find in accordance with the presumption,
and the example of that, of course, is the presumption
of innocence.

Now, the jurors are the sole judges of the credibility of the witnesses, which means the believability of the testimony and the weight their testimony deserves. Scrutinize the testimony given and the circumstances under which each witness testified, and every matter in evidence which tends to show whether a witness is worthy of belief. Take into consideration, one, the witness's intelligence.

Two, the witness's motive and the state of mind. In other words, why is the witness testifying? What is his state of mind as he testifies before you. The witness's demeanor on the stand. The manner in which the witness answers the question. Is the witness withholding information? Is the witness answering fully and fairly. Take into consideration the witness's own ability to observe the matters as to which he has testified. Whether he has impressed you as one who had an accurate recollection of those matters. Take into con-

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sideration the relation each witness made to each side of the case. Take into consideration the manner in which each witness might be affected by the verdict. Take into consideration the extent, if any, to which the witness's testimony is corroborated. If a witness has been shown to have knowingly and intentionally testified falsely concerning a material fact, you may, if you wish, disregard all that witness's testimony on the theory that the witness is unworthy of belief. On the other hand, you may, if you wish, accept so much of that witness's testimony as you find credible. The principles merely underscores the wide discretion the jury has in weighing the credibility of a witness's testimony. A defendant who wishes to testify is as competent as a witness. You may judge his testimony the same as any other witness. His intelligence, his motive, state of mind, his demeanor on the witness stand, the many ways in which he will be affected by the verdict, the extent to which his testimony is corroborated or contradicted by the other evidence in the case.

The government offered proof that upon being informed that a crime was committed, the defendant failed to identify the photograph of Paul Fleischer when it was exhibited to him by a special agent of the FBI.

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You are called upon to determine whether such failure was inadvertently a result of confusion. You must remember the photograph was a black and white photograph, and Fleischer had red hair. Carelessness or other innocent reason. If such is the case, then the evidence is of no probative value. However, if the accused was aware that the photograph was one of Fleischer, and he knowingly and intentionally failed or refused to identify the picture as the picture of Fleischer, and you find that the defendant failed to identify the picture in order to establish his innocence, then you may consider such failure in the light of all the evidence in the case in determining guilt or innocence. Where a defendant knowingly and intentionally makes a false statement in order to establish his innocence, the jury may consider whether this circumstantial evidence points to a consciousness of guilt.

Ordinarily, it is reasonable to infer that an innocent person does not usually find it necessary to make a false statement to establish his innocence.

Whether or not evidence is to the defandant's voluntary statement in failing to make an identification points to a consciousness of guilt, and any significance to be attached to any such evidence are matters exclusively

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within the province of the jury. Paul Fleischer testified that he participated in the crime charged. You have the right to suspect the testimony of the participant in the crime charged if you find that he has a personal stake in the outcome of the trial or if you find that he believes that the rewards promised depends on the outcome of the trial. Paul Fleischer is not incompetent to testify because of his participation in the crime charged. On the contrary, the testimony of such a participant alone, if believed by the jury to be true beyond a reasonable doubt, may be of sufficient weight to sustain a verdict of guilty, even though not corroborated or supported by other evidence in the case. The jury should keep in mind that the testimony of an accomplice is always to be received with caution and weighed with great care. You should never convict a defendant of an unsupported testimony of an alleged accomplice, unless you believe such testimony to be true beyond a reasonable doubt. Paul Fleischer testified that he was convicted of a felony. As a matter of fact, convicted of participation in the crime charged here. The testimony of a witness may be disconsidered or impeached by showing that the witness has been convicted by a felony, that is a crime punishable in prison

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It does not render a way you may consider in determining the credibility of the witness. It is the province of the jury to determine the weight of any given testimony as impeachable.

Now, turning to the charge in this indictment, I could first read you U.S. 18 U.S.C. Section 659. You must understand that what is a crime depends on Congressional enactment. It is the Congress that makes that determination. Most of our criminal statute is fo. 1 in Title 18. It is entitled CRIMES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE. In pertinent part, it makes a Federal crime for anyone who steals or unlawfully takes, carries away or conceals from any motor truck or other vehicle with intent to convert to his own use, any goods moving or which are a part of or which constitute an interstate shipment of freight. That is what we call the substantive crime. It is a crime for anyone to steal, take away from a motor truck, to hi-jack goods from a motor truck, and makes it a federal crime if the goods are moving or a part of interstate shipment.

This defendant is not being charged with the substantive crime. The statute, 18 U.S.C. Section 371, makes it a crime to enter into any agreement, deal or venture, business partnership, to steal from a motor

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truck that is carrying goods moving in interstate commerce. It says that in this general language: "If two or more persons conspire either to commit any offense against the United States of for any purpose, and one or more of such persons do any act to effect the object to the conspiracy, the crime is committed." It is not necessary for the government to prove that the purpose of the conspiracy was accomplished. It is necessary for the government to prove that the parties, two or more, entered into an understanding, and that thereafter at least one of the parties did something in an effort to accomplish the purpose of the understanding or the business. A conspiracy is a combination of two or more persons who by concerted action, enter into an understanding to accomplish an unlawful purpose. Conspiracy has been described as a partnership in criminal purposes in which each member becomes the agent of every other member. The gist of the offense is the understanding to commit the unlawful act. Merely similarity of conduct among the various persons, the fact that persons met, associated does not necessarily establish proof of the existence of a conspiracy. However, the evidence in the case need not show that the members enter into any formal or expressed agreement. It need not show that they

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all sat down and discussed the terms of the unlawful venture. What the proof must show, is that the members in some way, in some manner or contrivance, positively or tacitly came to a mutual understanding to try to accomplish the unlawful plan. Evidence need not show that all the members of the conspiracy knew each other. What the evidence in the case must establish beyond a reasonable doubt is that the alleged conspiracy was knowingly formed, and that one or more of the methods or means alleged were used in an effort to accomplish the purpose of the conspiracy. A person may become a member of the conspiracy even though he wasn't present at the very outset. It is necessary for the government to prove that the accused was present when the entire plan was conceived. One who enters into a conspiracy after the conspiracy is established is responsible for all that happened before.

Before you may find that the accused became a member of the conspiracy, the evidence must show beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant was aware of the purpose of the conspiracy. In this case, that he was aware that this was an understanding, a plan to steal or bi-jack a truck. It is necessary for the government to prove that the defendant was aware of the specific

truck that was to be hi-jacked or any of the other details as to when it was going to be hi-jacked. In this case, the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that this accused knew that Peters and Fleischer and others were planning to hi-jack a truck, and understood that his role was to be that of providing the drop for the stolen goods.

During the trial, I gave a limiting charge, as
I recall, on how to treat testimony of conversations
between the witness and third parties, outside the
presence of the defendant. Of course, testimony as
to conversations with a defendant, if you credit it,
is chargeable against a defendant. You may counter
in determining whether he entered into the conspiracy,
but in our system of jurisprudence, an individual is
only responsible for what the individual says or does,
not what someone else says or does. The exception to
that principle is a case such as thes, where one member
of the conspiracy may act as an agent of the other
member of the conspiracy. It is similar to a lawful
partnership, where one partner may speak for another
partner during the term of the partnership.

So here, if you are satisfied that the government proved beyond a reasonable doubt that a conspiracy

existed, and that Paul Fleischer was a member of that conspiracy, and that he knowingly and wilfully entered into that conspiracy, and that means that the party is aware of what he is doing, it is not through mistake or ignorance, and wilfully means that he voluntarily and intentionally entered into it knowing that it is unlawful; if you believe the government proved that as to Paul Fleischer, then whatever Paul Fleischer said about hi-jacking within the business of the conspiracy charged, and during the term of the conspiracy, would bind the accused. If you find that the government also proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the accused knowingly and wilfully entered into that conspiracy, if all those conditions are not met, then disregard as not chargeable against this defendant.

But, before you can deal with the evidence, you must first determine whether this defendant became a member of the conspiracy. In order to make that determination, it is only the testimony of Paul Fleischer as to the conversations and transactions he says he had or had with this defendant. In other words, it is the testimony of what he said you may consider in determining whether or not the government proved beyond a reasonable

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doubt that he entered into the conspiracy. So first determine whether the conspiracy as alleged in the indictment is established. If you conclude the conspiracy existed, then determine next whether or not the defendant knowingly and wilfully became a member of that conspiracy, and then, if the government has proved beyond a reasonable doubt that one or more of the members of the conspiracy, doesn't have to prove that this defendant performed the overt act, but one or more of the members of the conspiracy performed an overt act knowingly and in furtherance of the purposes of the conspiracy. If all that is established, then the government shall have proved its case. If it fails to establish all that beyond a reasonable doubt, then it has not proved its case.

Now, an overt act is any act which the witness has testified or of which there might be proof from the exhibits that you see or hear. It might be a telephone call, it could be the hi-jacking, itself, conversations concerning the method of surveilling the truck to be hi-jacked, picking out the hi-jacked truck; but the overt act must be knowingly done. In other words, the party of the conspiracy you find performed the act must have been aware that he was doing it for the business of

shown it was something that was done to help accomplish the business of the conspiracy, which in this case was a hi-jacking. It might be, as I said, the picking out of the truck to be hi-jacked, the actual hi-jacking, the disposition of the goods, the towing of the truck away, any of those matters, any of those acts could be overt acts. So, the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt 4 essential elements of the crime charged in order to sustain a conviction. One, that the conspiracy described in the indictment was knowingly and wilfully performed and was existing at or about the time alleged.

Two, that the accused knowingly and wilfully became a member of the conspiracy and either joined the conspiracy after it was organized or became a member at inception. It doesn't matter. That thereafter, one of the conspirators knowingly committed an overt act, and lastly, that such overt act was knowingly done in furtherance of some act or purpose of the conspiracy.

Now, this defendant is charged as follows:

On or about and between the 1st day of January, 1972

and the 7th day of March, 1972, both dates being approximate and inclusive, within the Eastern District of New

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Yo k, the defendants Charles Peters, Gerald Collins, also known as "Rebel", Paul Flammio, Rocco Mastrangelo, also known as "Rocky" and Joseph Adelorio, also known as "Joe Baldy", Charles Forbes and Gerald Barry, along with Paul Fleischer, named herein as a co-conspirator not as a co-defendant, and others known and unknown to the grand jury, did knowingly and wilfully conspire to commit offenses against the United States, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 659, by conspiring to unlawfully take from a motor truck belonging to the Arlene Knitwear Company, Brooklyn, New York, a quantity of woman knitted garments, having a value in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100) which goods were moving as and constituting an interstate shipment of freight from New York to New Jersey, and further, to unlawfully receive and have in their possession the said garments, the aforesaid defendan's knowing the same to have been stolen.

In furtherance of the said unlawful conspiracy and for the purpose of effecting the objectives thereof, within the Eastern District of New York and elsewhere, the defendants Charles Peters, Gerald Collins, also known as "Rebel", Paul Flammio, Rocco Mastrangelo, also known as "Rocky", Joseph Adelorio, also known as "Joe

Baldy", Charles Forbes and Gerald Barry committed among others the following:

One, in or about January 1972, within the Eastern District of New York, the defendants Charles Peters, Gerard Collins, also known as "Rebel", Paul Flammio, Rocco Mastrangelo, also known as "Rocky" and Joseph Adelorio, also known as "Joe Baldy", along with co-conspirator Paul Fleischer met in Queens, New York.

Two, on or about March 3rd, 1972, the defendant Charles Forbes had a telephone conversation with the defendant Rocco Mastrangelo, also known as "Rocky", in New York, New York.

Three, on or about March 3rd, 1972, the defendant Gerald Barry drove a tow truck from New Jersey to New York, New York. (Title 18, United States Code, Section 371).

Now, you will shortly be excused to deliberate on the matter before you. Each juror must decide the case for himself and herself always, based on the evidence in the case. The jury process is the deliberative process. It is an exchange of views. It would be improper for you to go into the jury room and decide that you let somebody else do the job for you, just go along with whatever the others have decided. It would

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be equally improper for you to take an intransitive view and refuse to discuss it with your fellow jurors. If you have arrived at a verdict, and after exchanging of views you find that the verdict isn't based on the proper interpretation of the evidence, don't hesitate to abandon the first tentative determination you make and listen to your fellow jurors in the expectation and hope of arriving at once that is based solidly on the evidence and good common sense in drawing inferences from the evidence. During your deliberations you will have occasion to write me through your foreman. You might ask for testimony. You might ask for exhibits. It will take a long time locating testimony, so you will have to be patient. Try to identify it by subject matter or, if you can, by the witness, too. All the requests that you make I take up with the lawyers, and after discussion with them, I call you in the courtroom and answer your requests in the courtroom. I cannot answer questions. Don't ask me what a witness said. That would be my interpretation, and that would be wrong, because I would be poaching on your preserve. You are going to ask me to read the testimony of a certain witness concerning a certain subject matter, and you will have it then as you received it originally when it

CERTIFICATION OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on the 1st day of June, 1976, the undersigned personally mailed to E. Levin Epstein, Assistant U. S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, a copy of the brief and appendix as required by law.

CHARLES DE FAZIO III